

HIKING & PADDLING NEWS

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NEXT TWO MONTHS			
Jan 14	Doe River Gorge (near Hampton, Tenn.)	E	S. Perri

HIKING

TANAHWA TRAIL

(Scheduled: Sat, 3 Dec 94)

Leader: Rick Lott (615.282.5404)

Rating: Moderate (Approx. 6 miles)

The Tanahwa trail is located on the side of Grandfather Mountain and parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway. There are numerous places to stop and start. The group can decide which section to hike. With the leaves off of the trees, there should be some nice views down into the valley below. A distance of approximately 6 miles is planned. The hike can either be predominantly down hill or up hill depending on which direction we choose to hike. The Kingsport folks can meet at the Burger King in Colonial Heights at 8 AM and then stop by the Pizza Hut on S. Roan in Johnson City around 8:30 to pick up those of us who live in J.C. Please contact the hike leader if you plan to come.

SOUTH BEYOND 6000 HIKE

(Scheduled: Sat, 3 Dec 94)

Leader: G. Luttrell (Phone 615.239.9854)

This will be a day hike across Blackstock Knob and Clingman's Peak near Mt. Mitchell. Contact the hike leader for details.

SMOKIES BACKPACK - GROUP CHOICE

(Scheduled: 10-11 Dec 94)

Leader: Ted Malone (615.477.2222)

Rating: Moderate

Contact trip leader for details.

THIRD SATURDAY MAINTENANCE TRIP

(Scheduled: Sat, 17 Dec 94)

We will be working on vista maintenance on the third Saturday in December. We will cut small trees, briars, etc. at selected vistas on our section of the Appalachian Trail. You do not need to be an expert to help with this work. If the weather cooperates, we should have a nice hike and get some needed vista maintenance done at the same time. Bring

lunch, water, and work gloves. Tools will be provided. Meet at the parking area between Burger King and McDonalds in Colonial Heights at 8:00 a.m. Contact Ed Oliver (615-349-6668) or Ted Malone (615-477-2222) for additional info or to arrange for alternate meeting locations. If you know in advance you plan to help, please let us know so that we'll know how many tools to bring. If you decide to help at the last minute, you are still welcome. We will bring a few extra tools.

PADDLING

No outings scheduled

FOR THE RECORD

VIRGINIA CREEPER TRAIL

15 October 94

(Tim McClain reporting)

The weather and fall foliage combined with a great turnout to make a perfect day for this 6 mile hike on the eastern end of the Virginia Creeper Trail. This hike was billed as an EASY hike suitable for families with younger children and several folks took advantage of the opportunity. We had 17 people, seven of which were children. We started the hike at Whitetop Station, close to the east end of the trail. At this point you could see the home of a beaver colony and their pond as well as a great view of the surrounding mountains. During our lunch stop at Green Cove Station (an old railroad station which continues to be well maintained), we enjoyed watching the runners who were participating in a 17 mile race and the many bicyclists who use the trail. On the second half of our hike we continued west past two more beaver colonies immediately next to the trail. We didn't see any beavers but there were lots of signs showing their presence. We ended the hike at Callahan's crossing where most of the party rested while we shuttled the cars. Enjoying this perfect fall day were C. Niederer, C. Cox, E. Ford, G. Parkerson, S. Woody, A., R., M., and M. Moore, S., T., P., K., E., E., and L. McClain.

WARRIOR'S PATH STATE PARK

22 October 94

(John Thompson reporting)

Clouds and early light rain gradually changed to sunshine for our three mile hike over the Devil's Backbone Trail. We didn't see any deer or other wildlife, but did flush one noisy grouse. Those enjoying this two hour outing in colorful scenery were S. Blankenbeckler, D. Berry, the Raden family and J. Thompson.

SMOKIES DAYHIKE, COSBY CAMPGROUND TO MADDRON BALD

22 October 94

(Kevin Edgar reporting)

You might think that a day hike to a bald that isn't would be a disappointment. On this day, however, with the fall colors recklessly splashed across the Smokies hillsides, the threatened rain holding off till the very end of the day, and with lots of Indian summer sunshine warming our backs on the way up from Cades Cove, we were anything but

disappointed. Yes, "Maddron Heath-covered Ridge" would be a more accurate name. Still, at our misnamed destination the rock outcroppings and the views of the main ridge of the Smokies, plus the colorful valleys below, made Maddron a great lunch stop. We ascended on Snake Den Ridge trail, encountering no namesakes; the ascent was long and much altitude was gained, but the grade was sufficiently moderate to allow even for speech. Maddron "Bald" is less than a mile from the A.T., and this could easily be done as a circuit hike including part of the A.T., or returning to a placed car via the Maddron Bald trail. We simply retraced our steps on this day, dodging a few raindrops and quite a few Winnebagos near the end, tired and nearly sated with the sights and exertions of the day. C. Floyd, N. Dotson and K. Edgar feasted on nature's palette at its peak.

BOB'S CREEK POCKET WILDERNESS BACKPACK

29-30 Oct 94

(G. S. Luttrell reporting)

After a two hour drive to Marion, North Carolina, we passed through the gate (which is locked each night from 5 PM to 8 AM next day), and entered the not widely publicized and little used Bowater's Bob's Creek wilderness area. We saw no other cars or hikers until we exited next day. We strapped on our backpacks, and hiked by 3 small, nice waterfalls; Sentinel Rock; then 1/2 way around the 8 mile loop to the campsite. The trail intersections had limited information signs, and the leaf covered trails were hard to follow since there were no markings except for an occasional arrow. We lost the trail a few times, but were able to get back on track with the help of the Bowater map. There was still lots of fall color in this area and the weather was nice. On Sunday, we joined the crowd for lunch at the Marion KFC, then checked out Linville Falls on the return trip. Participants on this backpack trip were M. Graham, T. Cross, S. Greenwood, and G. Luttrell.

GREENBELT HIKE

29 October 94

(Collins Chew reporting)

The hike was a morning stroll on a beautiful, crisp Fall day. The new section of Trail in this linear City Park has been laid out well. Hikers included Y. and C. Raden, R. McCleese, B. Barnett and C. Chew.

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST ANNUAL MEETING

5 November 94

(Steve Perri reporting)

Frank and I attended the Annual Meeting of the Cherokee N.F. on Saturday which was held in Greenville from 8:00-3:00. The morning was devoted to reviewing the Issues of: Conservation Education, Forest Plan Revision, Timber, Wildlife, Fish, Program Highlights, Rural Development and Recreation Programs. After this was over two speakers from UT presented topics. Dr. David Buehler presented Neotropical Migrant Birds Effectuated by the Predacious Cow Bird and Dr. Scott Schlarbaum presented the Forest Health. Both topics were quite interesting. Dr. Schlarbaum's depiction of the effect of insects on the forest was quite a grim picture. In the afternoon we went on a field trip to visit two campgrounds that have been rehabbed by the USFS and volunteers. One noteworthy presentation under the Recreation program was the Ocoee plans for the Olympics in 1996. A 1700 ft course is in the planning stage now. One bridge has been constructed, gates, terraces and administrative buildings need to be constructed. Ticket sales are

estimated at \$15-25/person and will be on sale around March of 95 for the event in July of 96.

OFFER FOR TEHCC MEMBERS

(Bob Tonnies reporting)

As one of the A.T. maintenance clubs, TEHCC has been extended a discount on 1995 *The Thru-hikers Handbook*, distributed by the Center for Appalachian Trail Studies. The handbook, which usually sells for \$10.95, is now available for \$7.95. To advance order a copy for shipment in January, members should send a check for \$7.95 to:

Handbook Offer

Center for Appalachian Trail Studies

P. O. Box 525

Hot Springs, North Carolina 28743

REMINDER TO MEMBERS RECEIVING OUTSIDE MAILINGS OF THE TEHCC NEWSLETTER

(Bob Tonnies reporting)

If you haven't already renewed your subscription for 1995 and you wish to, please do so this month. The TEHCC newsletter distribution list will be updated in January and if you haven't renewed, you'll stop receiving the newsletter.

To contribute an article or hike notice to the TEHCC News, contact the editor, Bob Tonnies, B-65, TED (Home Phone: 615.477.8126). All contributions should be received by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

TERC HIKING & CANOEING CLUB

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